

AMENDMENT TO THE 1972 PROTOCOL TO THE 1928
CONVENTION CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL
EXPOSITIONS

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

AN AMENDMENT TO THE PROTOCOL OF NOVEMBER 30, 1972
(TIAS 9948) TO THE CONVENTION OF NOVEMBER 22, 1928, CON-
CERNING INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITIONS (TIAS 6548, 6549)



JANUARY 27, 1983.—Amendment was read the first time and, together
with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign
Relations and ordered to be printed for the use of the Senate

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

THE WHITE HOUSE, *January 27, 1983.*

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith an amendment to the Protocol of November 30, 1972 (TIAS 9948) to the Convention of November 22, 1928, concerning International Expositions (TIAS 6548, 6549) with a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to its acceptance.

The purpose of the amendment is to permit France to commemorate the French Revolution in a universal exposition at Paris in 1989, and the United States and Spain to commemorate the discovery of the Americas in a two-site universal exposition at Chicago and Seville in 1992. The present provisions of the Protocol do not permit the holding of a universal exposition in 1992 and another universal exposition only three years earlier in 1989. A minimum interval of seven years is required by the Protocol.

I submit herewith the Report of the Secretary of State on the amendment.

I strongly support the holding of a universal exposition to commemorate the discovery of the Americas and have previously designated Chicago as the site in the United States for that purpose. I recommend that the Senate give prompt consideration to the amendment and advice and consent to its acceptance.

RONALD REAGAN.

LETTER OF SUBMITTAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D.C., January 5, 1983.

The PRESIDENT,
The White House.

THE PRESIDENT: I have the honor to submit to you, with a view to transmission to the Senate for advice and consent to acceptance, an amendment to the Protocol of November 30, 1972 (TIAS 9948) to the Convention of November 22, 1928, concerning International Expositions (TIAS 6548, 6549).

Under Article 5(1)(b) of the Protocol, in general, an interval of ten years must elapse between two universal expositions. Under Article 5(2) the Bureau of International Expositions may in exceptional circumstances and under the conditions set forth in Article 28(3)(f) shorten the ten year interval to a minimum of seven years for universal expositions. Under Article 28(3)(f) a reduction to seven years requires a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly of the Bureau of International Expositions. The General Assembly is composed of representatives of each of the Contracting Parties to the Convention.

France desires to hold a universal exposition in 1989 to commemorate the bicentennial of the French Revolution. The United States and Spain desire to hold a universal exposition in 1992 at both Chicago and Seville (a unique, single exposition at two sites) to commemorate the discovery of the Americas.

However, the existing provisions of Article 5 do not permit a universal exposition in 1992 and another universal exposition only three years earlier in 1989. In the circumstances, as authorized by Article 28(3)(a) of the Protocol, the General Assembly adopted a draft amendment to Article 5(2) which would permit the holding of these two expositions. This draft amendment was transmitted for acceptance to the United States and the other Contracting Parties by the French Government, the depositary of the Convention (French note and translation attached).

The draft amendment reads:

The provisions of Article 5(2) shall be deleted after the words "the aforementioned intervals".

The present text of Article 5(2) is as follows:

Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) above, the Bureau may, in exceptional circumstances and under the conditions set forth in Article 28(3)(f), shorten the aforementioned intervals for the benefit of specialized expositions, on the one hand, and to a minimum of seven years for the benefit of universal expositions held in different states, on the other hand.

Article 5(2), as modified by the draft amendment, would read as follows:

Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 above, the Bureau may, in exceptional circumstances and under the conditions set forth in Article 28(3)(f), shorten the aforementioned intervals.

In order for the proposed amendment to enter into force for all the Contracting Parties, under Article 33(3) four-fifths of the Contracting Parties must have notified the French Government of their acceptance.

I recommend that you transmit the proposed amendment to the Senate with a request for expeditious action so that the United States Government may be in a position to notify the French Government of the United States acceptance of the amendment. Early United States action will stimulate action by the other Contracting Parties, thus enabling the amendment to come into effect at an early date.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE P. SHULTZ.

Enclosures:

1. French note of August 14, 1982.
2. Translation of French note.

AUGUST 4, 1982.

The Embassy of France presents its compliments to the Department of State and, with reference to the most recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Bureau of International Expositions (BIE) on June 18, 1982 in Paris, has the honor to inform it of the following:

As the Department of State is aware, the French and American authorities had agreed, prior to the final session of the BIE Executive Committee, on a formula for interpreting the November 22, 1928 Paris Convention as regards universal expositions. The formula made it possible to hold universal expositions in Paris in 1989 and in Chicago in 1992.

Since, however, several delegations pointed out at the aforementioned meeting of the Executive Committee that two universal expositions three years apart could not be held on the basis of a simple interpretation but required an amendment to the 1928 Convention Concerning International Expositions, a draft amendment was submitted at the June 24, 1982 session of the BIE General Assembly.

The text of the amendment adopted by the BIE General Assembly is: "The provisions of Article 5(2) shall be deleted after the words 'the aforementioned intervals'."

In order to take effect, this amendment must now be approved by the Contracting Parties, in accordance with the procedure stipulated in Article 33(3) of the November 30, 1972 Protocol.

As depositary of the Convention Concerning International Expositions, amended by the Protocol of November 30, 1972, the French Government therefore submits the aforementioned draft amendment to the States Party to the Protocol.

The Embassy of France would be grateful if the Department of State would inform it if the American authorities accept this amendment, as it assumes they do.